



Fresh News

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NOTES FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Tom Purvis

You will read, in some detail, on page 4 in this issue, of the passing of Lorraine Dellinger, a tireless worker on behalf of the society, and a true super fan of the Four Freshmen. Lorraine was a real "mover & shaker" within our group and the outstanding hostess of last years convention. She will not be easily replaced within our volunteer staff and will be missed by all who knew and worked with her over the years. We offer our sincere condolences to her family.

At the time of this writing we are still a few weeks away from what promises to be another great FFS convention weekend. For the benefit primarily of those members who will not be joining us in Orlando, I thought I would pass along some insight into some of the subjects that will be under discussion during our annual business meetings.

First, and very important, it is now official that the 2004 convention will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on July 29, 30 and 31, 2004! Planning is still preliminary, but we will have much more detail information included within the January issue of Fresh News. The host hotel will be the Crowne Plaza. Mark your calendar.

There will be three seats on our Board of Directors open for election this year following the staggered expiration that was established when we incorporated in 2001. We hope that we may establish a more formal procedure for nomination and election than has been our practice in the past. I have received several suggestions that an election system be established to enable members who do not attend our conventions to participate. This will be an important item on our agenda but may not get fully defined at those brief meetings. The expiring terms are held by Past President John Bangs, Treasurer Bruce Camlin, and Secretary Donna Gallaway. These are important contributing positions within our society and therefore we must very carefully evaluate prospective candidates.

We have been accepting credit card payments for Music Mart purchases and 2003 convention registrations since last April. Generally this program has gone well; however, it develops that a significant amount of additional work is required by our volunteer staff to accommodate. We have had very little interest in the use of credit cards for payment of dues. We are analyzing our costs for these services with the view of implementing any changes necessary to support these costs. We also continue to have some security and privacy issues with this service due simply to the method of operation with a volunteer staff.

TRUE STORY - LAST WEEKEND

by Robert J. Adams, Berkley MI

I was working on a charity event outdoors on August 16, 2003. This was just north of Detroit, Michigan, and over a million people came out over a ten-mile stretch of roadway to see an annual dream cruise event of antique cars.

Two young boys about fourteen years old came along while my CD player was presenting the Four Freshmen and "The Day Isn't Long Enough." One young man said "Who are those guys?" I told him they were the Four Freshmen. He said " 'Awesome', are they still singing?" I said "Yes, I just saw them a few weeks ago in Las Vegas."

Strange, I was about their age when I first heard the Freshmen and became "hooked" on this great sound.

There is a message here - the Freshmen must find a way of reaching these young people. They, too, will become fans if given a sample of our Four Freshmen.

What's Inside!

FF Society Contacts	p. 2
The Freshmen Schedule	p. 3
In Memory of Lorraine Dellinger	p. 4
A Feinstein's Report by Joe Smart.....	p. 5
Notes from Tom Purvis	p. 1 & 6
FFS Music Mart.	p. 7, 8, 9
The Greensburg Jazz Festival	p. 10
Greg Stegemen's New CD	p. 11
The Freshmen Influence	p. 12
Dowe's On Ninth - Jazz!	p. 13
Freshmen Modify Notes (Mr. Alaki)	p. 14, 15
My Story: Gisela Muecke	p. 15
Brian Wilson: A Freshmen Serenade..... (Mike McCoy)	p. 16
The Stan Kenton Rendevous	p. 17
My Kenton Collection (Walter Ey).....	p. 18
Notes and More	p. 19
Greg Stegeman/FF Hall of Famer	p. 19